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In the Matter of)
)
1987 Public Broadcasting)
Rate Adjustment Proceeding)

CRT Docket No. 87-4 PBRA

ORDER

The Tribunal has received a filing from Tad Crawford, counsel for the Coalition of Visual Artists Organization Coalition requesting that the Tribunal allow a disposition of the rate issues concerning the Coalition to be made based solely on the basis of written testimony. On August 24, 1987, the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) filed objections to the Coalition's request, supporting the value of testimony of live witnesses subject to questioning. On August 25, 1987, National Public Radio (NPR) filed in support of a flexible procedure in which an individualized determination of the need for witnesses to appear would be made. In addition, NPR requested that the Tribunal adopt the procedures used in the 1982 public broadcasting proceeding wherein the parties would file pre-hearing statements sufficient to put the other parties on notice as to the substance of the evidence they intended to present. Such statements would be in either outline or summary form, and would be accompanied by the names of witnesses and copies of the exhibits proposed to be used.

The Tribunal favors NPR's proposal, and therefore orders the following:

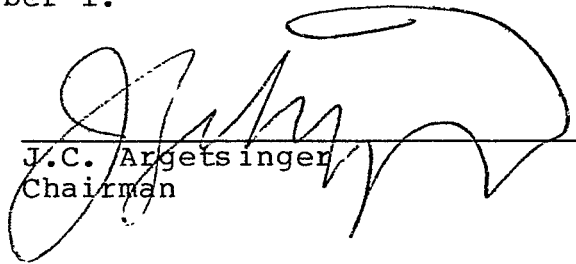
For those parties who intend to have witnesses: The written direct case may be a summary or outline of the testimony to be given, accompanied by the names of witnesses and copies of the exhibits proposed to be used.

For those parties desiring a "paper" disposition of their issues: the written direct case must contain the complete testimony accompanied by an affidavit of the witness supporting the testimony and the exhibits proposed to be used. If any party objects to the introduction of the written testimony without cross-examination, that party must file such objection with the Tribunal by September 24, and the Tribunal will determine whether to require the production of a witness.

The procedural dates are as follows:

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| September 21 | All parties shall file their written direct case. |
| September 24 | Parties may file requests for production of witnesses to support written testimony. |
| October 5-16 | Hearing of the written direct cases. The order of presentation will be determined after the Tribunal has reviewed the written direct cases. |
| November 6 | All parties shall file proposed rates, supported by proposed findings and conclusions. |
| November 13 | All parties shall file replies to proposed rates. |

It is not anticipated that the hearing of rebuttal testimony will be necessary. Due to the statutory deadline of December 31, 1987, any requests for leave to file rebuttal testimony must be filed with the Tribunal by October 1.



J.C. Argetsinger
Chairman

Dated:

SEP 4 1987